

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for displaying in a display area a user-selected portion of an image, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) displaying a slider, said slider being variable in size according to user input;
- 5 (b) resizing said slider; and
- (c) displaying a portion of said image, a scope of said portion of said image corresponding to a size of said slider as resized in step (b).

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) comprises the steps of:

- (b1) accepting user input to resize said slider, said user input being accepted responsive to a user's manipulation of an input device; and
- 10 (b2) displaying said slider as resized.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said user's manipulation of said input device of step (b1) comprises a click-and-drag technique.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

- 15 (d) displaying said image; step (d) being performed before step (a).

5. The method of claim 4, wherein at least a portion of said slider is displayed superimposed over at least a portion of said image in step (a).

A1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said slider is translatable over said image.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said portion of said image is displayed adjacent said image.

5 8. The method of claim 7, wherein a visual momentum technique is used to relate said portion of said image to said image.

A1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said visual momentum technique comprises displaying a pair of lines extending from said first portion of said image to said image.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein said portion of said image is displayed enlarged relative to said image.

10 11. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

(e) displaying a second slider, said second slider cooperating with said slider to define said portion of said image, said second slider being variable in size according to user input;

15 wherein said portion of said image is defined responsive to said user's resizing of said slider or said second slider.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein at least a portion of said second slider is displayed superimposed over at least a portion of said image.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said slider and said second slider cooperate to define said portion of said image as the intersection of said slider and said second slider.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein said slider comprises a scroll box of a scroll bar.

15. A graphic user interface for displaying a user-selected portion of an image, said graphic user interface comprising:

a display area for displaying an image representing a portion of a data file; and

a slider, said slider having a size corresponding to a scope of said image,

wherein said slider is variable in size according to user input.

16. The graphical user interface of claim 15, wherein resizing of said slider causes the portion of the data file displayed as an image in the display area to change.

17. The graphical user interface of claim 15, wherein said slider comprises a scroll box of a scroll bar.

18. A method for displaying in a display area a user-selected portion of an image, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) displaying an image;

(b) displaying at least a portion of a slider superimposed over at least a portion of said image to define a first portion of said image, said slider being variable in size according to user input;

(c) displaying said first portion of said image;  
 (d) accepting user input to resize said slider; and  
 (e) displaying a second portion of said image, said second portion of said image being defined by said resized slider.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said user input is provided by a click-and-drag technique.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein said first portion or said second portion of said image is displayed adjacent said image.

21. A system for displaying a user-selected portion of an image, said system comprising:  
 means for displaying a first slider, said first slider being variable in size according to user input;  
 means for resizing said first slider; and  
 means for displaying a portion of said image, a scope of said portion of said image corresponding to a size of said first slider as resized.

22. The system of claim 21, further comprising:  
 means for displaying a second slider, said second slider cooperating with said slider to define said portion of said image, said slider being variable in size according to user input;  
 wherein said portion of said image is defined responsive to a user's resizing of said slider or said second slider.

23. A computer program product for displaying a user-selected portion of an image, said computer program product comprising:

computer readable program code embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer readable program code comprising:

computer readable program code for displaying a first slider, said first slider being variable in size according to user input;

computer readable program code for resizing said slider; and

computer readable program code for displaying a portion of said image, a scope of said portion of said image corresponding to a size of said first slider as resized.

24. The computer program product of claim 23, further comprising:

computer readable program code for displaying a second slider, said second slider cooperating with said first slider to define said portion of said image, said second slider being variable in size according to user input;

wherein said portion of said image is defined responsive to a user's resizing of said slider or said second slider.

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